

# ANS NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY



Broadway at 155th Street, New York, NY 10032

212/234-3130

Fall 1979



*Leslie Elam and William Metcalf with visiting members of the Cercle d'Etudes Numismatiques*

## SOCIETY HOSTS BELGIAN GROUP

On October 31, the Society welcomed eight members of the Cercle d'Etudes Numismatiques of Brussels, Belgium. On arrival the group was met by Society Director Leslie Elam and the Chief Curator, William Metcalf, who served as the group's host during their visit.

Following a brief tour of the Society's exhibition halls, library and coin rooms, the group took the opportunity to examine material of individual interest and to consult with Society curatorial and library staff members. Discussions continued at an informal luncheon provided by the Society.

Each year the Cercle d'Etudes Numismatiques sponsors a numismatic tour abroad for its members and their families, organized by its President, Jacques Schoonheydt. The itinerary for 1979 included a short visit to Washington, D.C., where the members visited the Smithsonian collection and a week in New York City, highlighted by the Society visit. In other years, the

Brussels-based organization has sponsored tours to East Berlin, Copenhagen and Vienna.

In addition to Mr. Schoonheydt, members of the group who visited the Society included: Marc Bar; Maurice Colaert, Treasurer of the Royal Numismatic Society of Belgium; Paul De Baeck, Vice-President of the Belgian RNS; M. De Doner; Jean Nivaille; Pierre Schindel; and Mme. Verschaffel of the Brussels Coin Cabinet.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

Michael Bates, the Society's Curator of Islamic Coins, would like to organize one or two panels on numismatics and monetary history at the April meeting of the American Oriental Society and the American Research Center in Egypt in San Francisco. Proposals for papers on Islamic, South Asian and East Asian topics are invited, and should be sent as soon as possible to Mr. Bates.

## THE BERNE CONGRESS

The Ninth International Numismatic Congress, held in Berne, Switzerland, attracted close to 400 registrants from 35 countries during the 6 days, September 10-15, 1979. The ANS was well represented by staff members who contributed greatly to activities of the Congress.

### Society Participation

Margaret Thompson, outgoing Vice-President of the Bureau of the International Numismatic Commission, chaired a session and later was elected an honorary member of the Commission in recognition of her many years of service in fostering international cooperation among numismatic scholars. Jeremiah Brady delivered an illustrated talk as did Nancy Waggoner who also chaired one of the sessions for papers. William Metcalf presented one of the four principal lectures, commissioned by the Swiss organizing committee.

Michael Bates delivered a paper and also organized and chaired a special informal colloquium on Islamic numismatics. Seventeen scholars from seven nations took part, with each participant presenting an oral report on Islamic studies in his or her country, personal views concerning major problems in Islamic numismatic studies, and current research and publication. At the request of the colloquium participants, Mr. Bates later recommended to the general assembly of the Congress that formal recognition be given at future congresses to such informal colloquia in various numismatic specialities.

### Nine Elected to Bureau

At the General Meeting of the International Numismatic Commission, a new, nine-member Bureau was elected to serve until 1986, the date of the

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(Continued from page 1)

next congress. Five members were reelected for another term: Robert A. G. Carson, Great Britain, who will serve as President; Herbert A. Cahn, Switzerland; Treasurer, Peter Berghaus, West Germany; Ernesto Bernareggi, Italy; and Octavian Ilescu, Rumania. New members of the Bureau are Istvan Gedai, Hungary, Vice President; Kolbjorn Skaare, Norway, Secretary; Michael Bates of the ANS; and J. B. Giard, France.

### Honorary Members

In addition to Miss Thompson, the following numismatic scholars were elected to honorary membership on the commission: Christopher Blunt, Great Britain; H. Enno van Gelder, Netherlands; Lajos Huszár, Hungary; G. K. Jenkins, Great Britain; Colin Martin, Switzerland; and Bucur Mitrea, Rumania.

### Next Congress

Invitations for the next numismatic congress were received from Great Britain and Spain. At the recommendation of the Bureau, the Commission selected London in 1986 to coincide with the celebration of the sesquicentennial of the Royal Numismatic Society.

### Publications

The *Survey of Numismatic Research 1972-1977*, edited by Robert Carson, Peter Berghaus and Nicholas Lowick, was published in one volume and distributed to registrants at the Congress. Orders for the work may be placed through the INC office, Herbert A. Cahn, Treasurer, Münzen und Medaillen AG, 4002 Basel, Switzerland.

Society contributions to the work include "The Roman Empire from Augustus to A.D. 284," by William Metcalf, "The Latin Orient," by John Slocum, "Western Hemisphere," by Richard Doty, and "Muslim and Modern India," by Charles K. Panish.

In addition, plans are being made to publish the papers presented at the Congress in a proceedings volume.

### Calendar (continued from page 6)

#### March

21-25 Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.



Leslie Elam and Richard Doty accept USSR coins from Jack Pinyan of Numinter

### ANS RECEIVES MOSCOW 1980 OLYMPIC COINS

The Society has received a set of the silver proof coins struck to commemorate the 1980 Olympic games to be held in the Soviet Union. The collection, which numbers 28 specially struck coins in denominations of 5 and 10 rubles of which 21 have been issued to date, was presented to the Society by representatives of Numinter B.V., agent for distribution of the coins outside the USSR.

The proof coins, designed and struck at the state mints of Moscow and Leningrad, were produced in limited quantities and have already become sought-after collectors' items. Sale of the commemorative issue in the United States has also benefitted this country's Olympic team which is receiving a percentage of the proceeds.

Acquisition of these modern commemorative coins complements the Society's already strong collection of Russian coinage dating from as early as the eleventh century.

### 1980 MEETING CALENDAR

The Society's Council has adopted the following calendar of meetings during 1980.

January 12 - Council meeting at 1:30; Annual meeting of the Society at 3:00; Corporate Reorganization meeting following the Annual meeting.

March 7 - Finance Committee meeting at 11:00; Executive Committee meeting at 1:30.

April 12 - Council meeting at 1:30; Spring meeting of the Society at 3:00.

July 17 - Finance Committee meeting at 3:00.

July 18 - Council meeting at 2:00.

October 11 - Finance Committee meeting at 11:00; Council meeting at 1:30; Fall meeting of the Society at 3:00.

### NUMISMATICS PANEL

The Eighth Wisconsin Conference on South Asia, held November 2-3 in Madison, included a panel 'Numismatics: Important Resource for Studying South Asian History & Culture' chaired by Society member William Spengler. Manfred Raschke, a former Graduate Seminar student now at the University of California, spoke about Roman coin finds in the subcontinent and their significance; John Deyell, interrupting a two year research program in South Asia, used hoard evidence to reassign Chahada Deva to the late twelfth century and resolve previous inconsistencies in the quantities of Rajput and early sultanate coinages; Marie Martin, a former Graduate Seminar student and now Assistant Editor for the Society, matched Khalji billon coins struck from 1316 to 1320 with those described in a contemporary sultanate text and discussed metrological terms of the period; and Charles Weber, from the University of Tulsa, demonstrated specific gravity testing and showed how it can be applied in an analysis of Mughal coinage.



Martin Luther by Goetz, from the Ebsen gift (one-half original size)

### ANS RECEIVES BUDDY EBSEN GIFT OF GOETZ MEDALS

Prominent television star Buddy Ebsen has presented to the Society his select collection of medals, patterns and coins produced by the twentieth century German medallist Karl Goetz.

This group of 28 numismatic objects includes a gold striking of Goetz's 1921 satirical medal "Watch on the Rhine" and preliminary cast impressions of four works by Goetz including his study of Martin Luther commemorating the 400th anniversary of his stay at Coburg in 1530.

The gift of this collection, arranged through the Superior Stamp and Coin Company of California, provides important additions to the Society's already great collection of the work of this artist.



## ANNUAL GIVING GOAL MET

The generous response of our members and friends during the last month of the Society's fiscal year carried the Annual Giving contributions over the top of our \$40,000 goal set for 1979. As of September 30, \$40,312 had been received. It is heartening to note that included among those who read of the need for funds in our *Newsletter* and returned the coupon with a donation were some who had not previously contributed to our Annual Giving program.

Annual Giving supports the general operations of the Society. It provides funds to help close the gap between our established sources of income and the rapidly escalating costs of operating our

museum and research institution.

The goal for 1980 has again been set at \$40,000. All members will have received a contribution request with their dues notices. Those who have not yet responded are urged to include the Society in year-end giving plans, for Annual Giving is a meaningful demonstration of support for the work of the Society.

The Society's Council has designated the following donor categories for listing in our *Annual Report*: Sponsoring Donor (\$1,000 and above); Sustaining Donor (\$500-999); Contributing Donor (\$100-499); and Donor (under \$100). Contributions in any amount are most welcome

## ASSOCIATES ELECTED AT OCTOBER MEETING

Four members of the Society's 1979 Graduate Seminar program and a number of individuals who attended the recent ANA convention were included in the list of 44 new members elected as Associates at the October 13 meeting of the Society's Council.

Those elected are: David L. Bates, Meadville, Pennsylvania; Errett Bishop, La Jolla, California; Erkki Borg, Helsinki, Finland; Michael R. Broome, Reading, Berks, England; Gary A. Cooke, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; John D. Cooney, Sarasota, Florida; John J. Dobbins, Charlottesville, Virginia; Henry Garrett, Burbank, California; Javier Suárez González, Lima, Peru; Thomas D. Harris, Renton, Washington; Robert L. Harwell II, Atlanta, Georgia; Ronald M. Howard, Plano, Texas.

Also, Thomas J. Imig, Madison, Wisconsin; Dennis D. Johnson, Dallas Texas; Marvin E. Klein, Southfield, Michigan; Robert V. Legacy, Jr., Englewood, New Jersey; Mohammed Y. Limbada, London, England; Joseph P. Linzalone, Montclair, New Jersey; Georges Lotfi, Paris, France; Alfred E. Marcus, Forest Hills, New York; Alexander F. Mauro, Holbrook, New York; Stephan R. McDonald, Logan, Utah; Bruce David McLean, FPO, New York; Mark D. McLean, Saugus, Massachusetts; Margaret Christina Miller, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Jürgen Moller, Amstel, Netherlands; Dwight E. Morrow, Deland, Florida; John H. Oakley, Scotch Plains, New Jersey; Stephen H. Pine, Englishtown, New Jersey

Also, Patrick Jay Postma, Doraville,

Georgia; Seymour Reisin, Rye, New York; Evelyn Richman, Boca Raton, Florida; Jay Roe, Madison, Wisconsin; Edward G. Schroeder, St. Louis, Missouri; Elizabeth W. Steinle, South Charleston, West Virginia; Frances Van Keuren Stern, Eugene, Oregon; Robert Stocking, Mound City, Kansas; Daniel Stoecklin, Basel, Switzerland; Universität Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany; Earl W. Volz, Ferguson, Missouri; Reinhold Walburg, Münster, Germany; Kerry Wetterstrom, Denver Colorado; and D. Heidi Wolf, New York, New York.

### Reinstatements

In addition to new members, the Council voted to reinstate six former members of the Society as Associates: Department of Antiquities and Museums, Jerusalem, Israel; Sylvan E. Epstein, San Francisco, California; William Bain Murray, Ozone, Arkansas; Charles J. O'Donnell, East Point, Georgia; Efrem Pegan, Inning, Germany; and Michael M. Savignol, Weston, Connecticut.

It is a pleasure to welcome all who, through membership, evidence their interest in the work of our Society.

## SOCIETY AT NYING

The Society will participate in the eighth annual New York International Numismatic Convention, slated for December 8-10 at the Sheraton Centre (the former Americana Hotel) in New York. The ANS information booth will be open during exhibit hours to help visitors interested in the Society and to facilitate

## ANS HONORS SWISS SOCIETY

The one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Société Suisse de Numismatique was celebrated on September 7 at Fribourg. The day's program culminated in a banquet attended by 125 members and guests, including Society representatives Margaret Thompson, Nancy Waggoner and William Metcalf.

Greetings from the ANS were conveyed to SSN President Hans-Ulrich Geiger by Miss Thompson who presented him with a proclamation on behalf of the ANS. Also on this occasion, Miss Thompson was elected an honorary member of the Société Suisse, the first American so honored since 1879, the founding year of the organization.

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to be reduced or ended. In that case, the humanities in the United States would be grievously weakened."

### Bill in Subcommittee

The strategy, according to ACLS President Robert M. Lumiansky is to concentrate efforts now upon securing Congressionally sponsored recognition of the ACLS through the federal charter and defer until later attempts to advance the endowment legislation. The proposal for a federal charter is now in the Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations of the House Judiciary Committee. Its Chairman, Congressman George E. Davidson of California, would welcome opinions from interested parties concerning HR 3312. His address is: The Honorable George E. Davidson, 2202 Rayburn House Office Building, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.

arrangements for post-convention visits to the Society.

### Doty to Speak

A number of collectors' groups will be meeting in conjunction with the convention which is devoted mainly to ancient, mediaeval and foreign numismatics. At the meeting of the International Bank Note Society on December 8, at 2:30 P.M., Associate Curator Richard Doty will give an illustrated address on "Mexican Emergency Currency." Mr. Doty will examine Mexican issues of the early twentieth century in the context of emergency currency issued world wide, the phenomenon of *notgeld*.



## ANS 1980 GRADUATE SEMINAR, FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS INVITED

Applications are now being accepted for the 28th annual Graduate Seminar in Numismatics to be held at the Society June 10-August 9, 1980. Ten grants in aid, carrying stipends of \$900, will be made to students of high competence who will have completed at least one year's graduate study in Classics, Archaeology, History, Art History, Economic History, or other related disciplines. Areas of study may include the ancient Mediterranean, the ancient Near East, mediaeval Europe, Latin America, the Islamic world, South Asia, or East Asia. Applications will be accepted also from junior university or college instructors with a degree in one of these fields. Attendance at the seminar is restricted to graduate students and junior faculty members at institutions in the United States and Canada.

The Seminar program has an intensive curriculum which includes lectures and conferences conducted by specialists in various fields, preparation and oral delivery of a paper on a topic selected by the student, and actual contact with the coinages related to that topic.

William Metcalf, Chief Curator of the Society, is in charge of the Seminar program, and the entire curatorial staff as well as instructors from this country and abroad will participate. Bernhard Overbeck, Senior Keeper of Coins at the Staatliche Münzsammlung, Munich, and Lecturer in Roman Numismatics at Munich University, will be in residence at the Society throughout the Seminar.

### Graduate Fellowship

In addition the Society is accepting applications for its Fellowship of \$3,500 for the academic year 1980/81. The award is open to university graduate students in the fields of the humanities or social sciences who will have completed the general examinations (or the equivalent) for the doctorate; will be writing a dissertation during the academic year 1980/81 on a topic in which the use of numismatic evidence plays a significant part; and will have attended one of the Society's Graduate Seminars prior to the time of application.

The deadline for completed applications for both the Seminar and Fellowship is March 1, 1980. Awards will be announced no later than April 1.

## BEULAH P. SHONNARD, FORMER STAFF MEMBER

Beulah Phelps Shonnard, a member of the Society's staff from 1955 until her retirement in 1976, died on September 21, 1979.

"'Boo,' as she was affectionately known, was originally hired to assist in preparation of the centennial *History* of the Society. The tribute paid to her in the preface of that work by the author, Howard L. Adelson, attests to the special person whom we all came to know and admire during the years she shared with us.

Adelson wrote: "When the Council had determined that a history of the Society should be written as part of the Centennial celebration, concerted efforts were made to secure an especially capable assistant for the author. Mrs. Shonnard was asked to undertake that task which involved all the various phases of research. With her characteristic energy Mrs. Shonnard joined in the work of reading practically illegible letters, moldy documents, old newspapers and journals. Her skill at this contributed most importantly to the completion of this history, and her suggestions in the course of the writing proved invaluable. This book, in great measure, owes its very existence to the competence of Mrs. Shonnard, who not only aided in the research and writing but also typed the manuscript."

While she was working at the Society, Mrs. Shonnard was involved in a number of long-term projects, including the reorganization and supervision of the Society's negative and photo files. We remain in her debt.

## COMMITTEE ON MODERN COINAGE AND CURRENCY

A Standing Committee on Modern Coinage and Currency has been created by an amendment to the Society's By-Laws passed at the October meeting of the Council. The amendment also provides for the dissolution of the previous standing committees on modern and western hemisphere coins which the new committee replaces.

The Society's standing committees were reorganized in 1976 to provide an effective means for our members to participate in the acquisition, management and use of the Society's collections. A major factor in the success of the standing committees has been the matching of each committee's area of

interest with the cabinet responsibility of a single Society curator.

Establishment of the Committee on Modern Coins and Currency will bring together the talents of several members whose numismatic interests coincide with the area of responsibility assigned to Richard Doty, our Associate Curator of Modern Coins.

President Harry Bass, Jr., has appointed as Chairman of the new committee Eric P. Newman of St. Louis, a member of the Society's Council and a leading authority on American colonial and United States coinage. Other members of the committee are Kenneth E. Bressett, Racine; John R. Francis, Verona, N.J.; Henry Grunthal, Riverdale, N.Y.; James A. Haxby, Ottawa; Gene Hessler, New York City; R. Henry Norweb, Jr., Cleveland; Margo Russell, Sidney, Ohio; and Robert A. Vlack, Plaistow, N.H. Mr. Doty serves as Secretary to the committee.

## COMMITTEE ON ISLAMIC AND SOUTH ASIAN COINS MEETS

The ANS Committee on Islamic and South Asian Coins met Saturday, October 13. Six members were present, as well as two guests: Gilles Hennequin, a French monetary historian who is cataloguing the Seljuk and Atabek coins of the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, and Marie Martin, the Society's new Assistant Editor. Both are alumni of the Graduate Seminar.

It was announced that the Committee's efforts to arrange publication of Paul Balog's new work, *Ayyubid Coins*, have been successful: the corpus has been accepted as a Special Publication of the Royal Numismatic Society. The Committee expressed its thanks to Samir Shamma for his financial support.

The Committee discussed the possibility of an updated edition of Zambaur's *Munzprägungen*, a standard reference for Islamic coinage. A centralized card file of information on Islamic issues was suggested. Raymond Hebert of the Smithsonian reported on the progress of that institution's computerized catalogue of its collection.

Members reported on recent European meetings at which Islamic numismatic topics were discussed, including the Ashmolean's colloquium "Coinage and the Crusaders," the International Numismatic Congress and the informal Islamic colloquium in Berne, and the Paris Round Table on "Numismatics and Statistics."





## ANS BOOK BARGAINS

Prices on two Society publications have been cut in order to make them available to a wider audience. *Coinage of the Americas*, edited by Theodore V. Buttrey, was issued by the Society in 1973 at \$8.50; it is now offered for \$4.50 plus \$1.00 postage and handling. *Coinage*, which contains 15 essays by 8 authors, was compiled as a survey volume to accompany a major exhibition of coinage of the western hemisphere mounted at the Society in 1973.

Similarly, in 1976 the Society had a special bicentennial exhibition and produced an accompanying book, *Studies on Money in Early America*, edited by Eric P. Newman in association with Richard G. Doty. Originally \$27.50, this book is now available for \$10.50 plus \$1.00 postage and handling. *Studies* contains a wealth of information on neglected areas of pre-federal American numismatics.

The price reductions on these two volumes are possible since both were originally subsidized, in part, by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts.

### Consider Donating Society Publications

Members who have unneeded ANS publications may wish to consider donating them back to the Society. With the ever-broadening interest in numismatics, the demand for Society publications has increased greatly. One result is that many of our older publications are now out-of-print.

Donated publications provide us with a renewed supply from which to fill requests from those who need the books. Out-of-print publications are sold at current market prices as determined from recent auction sales.

### Charitable Contribution Deduction

Donors of Society publications, who received the books originally as a perquisite of membership, are entitled to a charitable contribution deduction for the gift made to the Society. Considering the current market demand for numismatic books, the value of such a gift may well prove to be quite handsome.

There is an immediate need for copies of *ANSMN* 23 which was issued in January 1979 and is already out of print, as well as for nos. 3, 5, 6 and 9. Of course, all Society publications in undamaged condition are most welcome.



Henry Grunthal receives 50-year medal from ANA President Grover Criswell

## GRUNTHAL RECEIVES ANA MEDAL

Henry Grunthal, former Curator of European and Modern Coins at the ANS, was honored at the 1979 ANA Convention in St. Louis for 50 years of continuous membership in that organization. An inscribed gold medal was presented to him to mark this achievement.

Mr. Grunthal, now a numismatic consultant, was a member of the Society's staff for 20 years until his retirement in 1973. Long known for his kindly humor and engaging wit, he received a resounding ovation from the ANA banquet participants for his acceptance remarks:

## DOTY COMPLETES ORGANIZATION OF ANS PAPER MONEY

Richard Doty, the Society's Associate Curator of Modern Coins, recently completed a major project initiated three years ago, involving the organization, cataloguing, classification, and conservation of the Society's extensive paper money collection. Some 30,000 items which had previously been stored in a variety of ways have now been made available for public study.

The Society's collection of paper money is particularly strong in early United States "broken bank" notes, Confederate and southern state issues, Depression scrip and emergency paper, or *notgeld*. Many unlisted varieties have been discovered by Mr. Doty during the course of the project, in addition, some notes which were previously assumed to be unique can no longer be so classified. An article by Mr. Doty, deriving from his study of the Society's holdings will appear in *ANSMN* 24 later this year. This particular project also enabled him

"Mr. President, officers and members of the ANA, ladies and gentlemen.

"Recipients of an award usually proclaim with conventional modesty that they are not worthy of such recognition. I do not intend to follow this ancient and hallowed custom! The trouble is that I have a sneaking suspicion that the Association's 50 year medal may honor my endurance and longevity rather than any particular numismatic achievements.

"But at least I stand before you this evening as a prime example of the results of a half century's pursuit of our common, enjoyable and healthy hobby.

"No one, however, should get the idea that I do not appreciate receiving this gold medal. Gold is worth something these days! Besides, the medal relieves me of paying any further dues. So I accept this yellow token, with gratitude and the promise to do my best to repay all of you for the many benefits derived from past membership in the ANA during the next 50 years.

"Thank you all."



to undertake authorship of the survey guide, *Paper Money of the World*, published by Bantam/Ridge Press in 1977.

Mr. Doty is actively soliciting further donations in the paper money field; he hopes to place this section of the Society's modern cabinet on a footing equal to the other modern holdings.

## ANS COINS AT AMNH

The Society has made two separate loans of gold coins to the American Museum of Natural History in New York for exhibition. For "Gold of El Dorado: The Heritage of Colombia" which opened November 18 and continues through April 1, 1980, the Society provided seven coins of Charles V of Spain said to have been struck from New World gold, including the Society's example of the double *excellente* struck in 1521 at Barcelona. A related exhibit, "It's Gold," includes a selection of 15 representative gold coins of the world from the Society's collection.



# Calendar

## December

- 8-10 ANS Information Booth open at New York International Numismatic Convention
- 8 NYINC, Richard Doty lecture, "Mexican Emergency Currency," 2:30 P.M.
- 22-25 Society closed for Christmas weekend
- 28-30 Archaeological Institute of America Meeting, Boston
- 28-30 American Historical Association Meeting, New York

## 29-January 1

Society closed for New Year's weekend

- 12 Council Meeting, 1:30  
Annual Meeting, 3:00

## February

- 12 Society closed for Lincoln's Birthday

## March

- 1 Application deadline for ANS Graduate Seminar and Graduate Fellowship awards
- 7 Finance Committee Meeting, 11:00  
Executive Committee Meeting, 2:00

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## ACLS SEEKS FEDERAL CHARTER

The American Council of Learned Societies, of which the Society is a participating member, has embarked on an ambitious program to secure a federal charter from Congress as well as up to \$50 million in endowment funds in order to end the Council's dependence for funds on periodic foundation grants.

In support of these objectives, Congressman Frank Thompson, Jr., of New Jersey has introduced two bills in the House—HR 3312, with 15 co-sponsors, to incorporate the ACLS under a federal charter and HR 2666 to authorize Congress to appropriate the endowment.

Since its founding 60 years ago, the stated purpose of the ACLS has been the advancement of humanistic studies in all fields of learning and the maintenance and strengthening of relations among the national societies devoted to such studies. The ANS was granted admission to the ACLS in 1937.

### ACLS Activities

The activities of the ACLS are substantial, both internationally and nationally. The ACLS is, as Congressman Thompson has indicated, "the intermediary for the U.S. Government for official associations" with foreign scholarly organizations, including academicians in the U.S.S.R., eastern Europe, the Republic of China and, most recently, in the People's Republic of China.

The importance of the ACLS for American humanistic studies was made clear by James M. Banner, Jr., Chairman of the American Association for the Advancement of the Humanities, writing in the August 1979 issue of

*Humanities Report*. Mr. Banner summarized the current level of ACLS activities as follows:

"During the academic year 1977-78, it awarded 70 post-doctoral fellowships, 31 fellowships to recent Ph.D. recipients seven study fellowships, 171 grants-in-aid to established and younger scholars, and 143 travel grants. It brought 48 foreign scholars to the United States to study various aspects of American culture. Both independently and in conjunction with other organizations, such as the Social Science Research Council and the International Research and Exchanges Board, it provided fellowship, travel, study, and grant-in-aid awards to 303 Americans in foreign area studies in the United States and abroad. It also supported the researches of 22 senior graduate students.

"In addition, the Council continued to oversee the publication of the *Dictionary of American Biography*, the *Dictionary of Scientific Biography*, the *Dictionary of the Middle Ages*, the *Letters of Charles Darwin*, and the *Works of William James*. A history of the arts in the United States and undergraduate teaching materials in Islamic civilization are being prepared under its auspices. The Council has administrative responsibility for the Universities Service Centre, a research library in Hong Kong. And as the major American confederation of learned societies in the humanities and social sciences, the Council represents the United States in the *Union Académique Internationale*."

Banner concludes, "Were ACLS resources to diminish substantially, or were the ACLS to disappear, these programs and undertakings would have

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## The American Numismatic Society

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